

## Short-Term Uses Versus Long-Term Productivity

The short-term use of the environment versus preserving its long-term productivity relates to converting the natural productivity of the land to some developed use. The natural productivity of the land is considered a renewable use of the land; developed use generally has a relatively short economic lifespan and is regarded as a short-term use.

As described in the June 2000 Final EIS, all the proposed build alternatives would have an impact on farmland, wetlands, and other wildlife habitats in the study area. No changes to the consistency of the proposed action's short-term uses of the environment with local land use and transportation plans or maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, as defined by local governments, have occurred since publication of the Final EIS. However, since publication of the Final EIS, construction activities associated with Alternative D (Final EIS Preferred Alternative) and development unrelated to the proposed action have affected farmland and wetland and upland habitats in the project study area. See Sections 4.2, 4.12, 4.13, and 4.20 of the Supplemental EIS for a complete description of farmland impacts, impacts on wetland and wildlife habitats, and construction-related impacts that have occurred since publication of the Final EIS.